

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4 22, wherein the diaphragm is designed for a movement with a translatory component in the illuminating beam path perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.
3. (Currently Amended): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4 22, wherein the illuminating device is movable relative to the diaphragm.
4. (Currently Amended): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4 22, wherein the light patch is movable by pivoting of a deflection element for the illuminating light.
5. (Currently Amended): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4 22, wherein the diaphragm is arranged in a diaphragm support which is movable perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.
6. (Currently Amended): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4 22, wherein the diaphragm is movable in two directions perpendicular to one another and linearly perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Currently Amended): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4 22, wherein the diaphragm is arranged in a diaphragm support which is rotatably mounted eccentrically with respect to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.

9. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 5, wherein more than one diaphragm is provided on the diaphragm support.

10. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 5, wherein the diaphragm or at least one diaphragm is slit-shaped.

11. (Currently Amended): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4 22, wherein the diaphragm or at least one diaphragm is circular.

12. (Currently Amended): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4 22, wherein the diaphragm has a modifiable slit width size or a modifiable circle diameter size ~~can be modified~~.

13. (Currently Amended): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4 22, wherein the diaphragm is arranged on a diaphragm support which is partially transmitting at least in subareas.

14. (Currently Amended): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4 4, wherein the diaphragm and/or the deflection element ~~can be adjusted~~ is adjustable by motor.

15. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 2, wherein the illuminating device is movable relative to the diaphragm.

16. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 2, wherein the light patch is movable by pivoting of a deflection element for the illuminating light.

17. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 3, wherein the light patch is movable by pivoting of a deflection element for the illuminating light.

18. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 2, wherein the diaphragm is arranged in a diaphragm support which is movable perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.

19. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 3, wherein the diaphragm is arranged in a diaphragm support which is movable perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.

20. (Previously Presented): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 4, wherein the diaphragm is arranged in a diaphragm support which is movable perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.

21. (Canceled)

22. (New): An operation microscope comprises:

- an illuminating device illuminating an object plane with a light patch, the illuminating device and the light patch defining an illuminating beam path, the illuminating beam path having an optical axis;

- first and second observation beam paths;

- a front lens disposed in the illuminating beam path and the first and second observation beam paths; and

- a diaphragm disposed within the illuminating beam path but not within the first and second observation beam paths, the diaphragm defining at least one substantially rectangular slit, the diaphragm being rotatable about an axis parallel to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path whereby the at least one slit is rotatable from a first orientation within the illuminating beam path to a second orientation within the illuminating beam path, wherein the light patch is movable with a translatory movement component in the object plane.

23. (New): An operation microscope comprises:

an illuminating device illuminating an object plane with a light patch, the illuminating device and the light patch defining an illuminating beam path, the illuminating beam path having an optical axis;

first and second observation beam paths;

a front lens disposed in the illuminating beam path and the first and second observation beam paths; and

a diaphragm mounted in a diaphragm support disposed within the illuminating beam path but not within the first and second observation beam paths, the diaphragm defining at least one substantially rectangular slit, the diaphragm support being movable perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path, wherein the light patch is movable with a translatory movement component in the object plane.

24. (New): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 23, wherein the illuminating device is movable relative to the diaphragm.

25. (New): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 23, wherein the light patch is movable by pivoting of a deflection element for the illuminating light.

26. (New): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 23, wherein the diaphragm is movable in two directions perpendicular to one another and linearly perpendicular to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.

27. (New): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 23, wherein the diaphragm support is rotatably mounted eccentrically with respect to the optical axis of the illuminating beam path.

28. (New): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 23, wherein more than one diaphragm is provided on the diaphragm support.

29. (New): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 23, wherein the diaphragm is slit-shaped.

30. (New): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 23, wherein the diaphragm is circular.

31. (New): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 23, wherein the diaphragm has a modifiable slit width size or a modifiable circle diameter size.

32. (New): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 23, wherein the diaphragm support is partially transmitting at least in subareas.

33. (New): The operation microscope as claimed in claim 25, wherein the diaphragm and/or the deflection element is adjustable by motor.